United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

Indiana Crop & Weather Report

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Issued June 25, 2012 Vol. 62, WC062512 For the week ending June 24, 2012

Agricultural Summary

Drought conditions have spread over most of the state with 55 counties currently under burn bans, according to the Indiana Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Indiana's driest May through June occurred in 1988, when an average of just 2.26 inches of rain fell statewide, according to records dating back to 1930. By comparison, 3.75 inches fell this year from May 1 through June 24th, well ahead of 1988 but only 48 percent of normal. Producers are concerned about corn pollination as the crop begins to tassel under very dry conditions. Wheat harvest continued to move northward with better than expected yields in some areas. More and more livestock operations are beginning to feed hay and grain due to deteriorating pasture conditions.

Field Crops Report

There were 6.8 **days suitable for field work** during the week. Nine percent of the **corn** acreage has **silked** compared with 0 percent last year and 1 percent for the 5-year average. **Corn condition** fell again and is now rated 27 percent good to excellent compared with 57 percent last year at this time.

Fifteen percent of the **soybean** acreage is **blooming** compared with 0 percent last year and 1 percent for the 5-year average. **Soybean condition** also fell further and is now rated 24 percent good to excellent compared with 57 percent last year at this time.

Seventy-two percent of the **winter wheat** acreage has been **harvested** compared with 13 percent last year and 21 percent for the 5-year average. **Winter Wheat condition** is rated 57 percent good to excellent compared with 58 percent last year at this time.

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Livestock were under stress most of the week due to the heat and poor grazing conditions. **Pasture condition** continued to decline and is now rated 11 percent good to excellent compared with 67 percent last year at this time.

Crop Progress

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Avg.
		Percent		
Corn Silked (Tasseled)	9	2	0	1
Soybeans Blooming	15	4	0	1
Winter Wheat Harvested	72	45	13	21
Alfalfa, Second Cutting	76	54	0	7

Crop Condition

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excel-lent
			Percent		
Corn	12	24	37	24	3
Soybean	12	24	40	22	2
Winter Wheat	3	9	31	43	14
Pasture	23	37	29	10	1

Soil Moisture & Days Suitable For Fieldwork

Soil Moisture	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
		Percent	
Topsoil			
Very Short	56	42	0
Short	35	43	2
Adequate	9	15	62
Surplus	0	0	36
Subsoil			
Very Short	48	35	0
Short	39	44	2
Adequate	13	21	68
Surplus	0	0	30
Days Suitable	6.8	6.7	2.9

Contact Information
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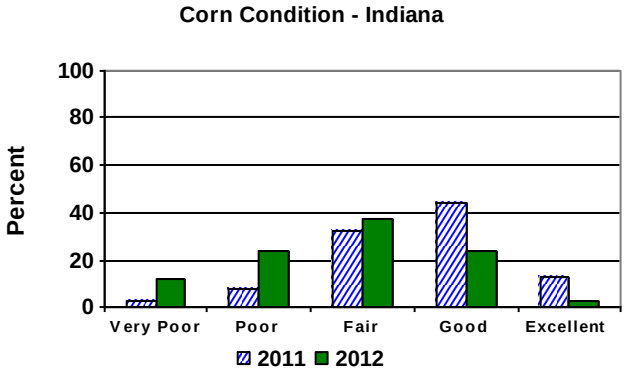
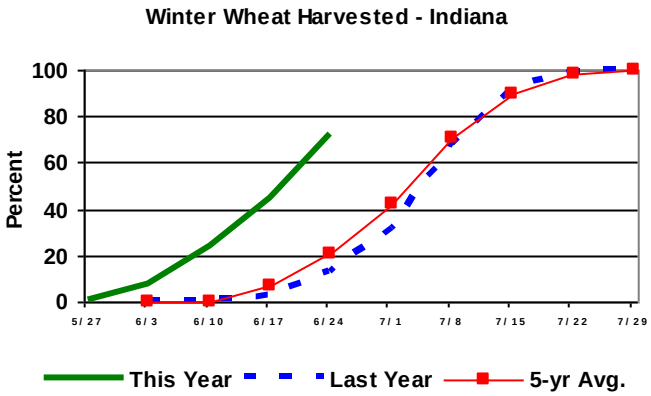
Access the National publication for this release at:
http://www.nass.usda.gov/Publications/National_Crop_Progress/index.asp



Source: USDA, NASS, Indiana Field Office



Source: USDA, NASS, Indiana Field Office

Other Agricultural Comments And News

Abnormally Hot Spring Weather Changes Crop Pest Dynamics

Written by Christian Krupke, Purdue University Extension entomologist. Article written June 21, 2012 and appears in AG answers. The article can be viewed online at: http://www.agriculture.purdue.edu/agcomm/aganswers/story.asp?storyID=6755

Insects are developing early in farm fields this spring because of unseasonably warm weather, making it even more important for farmers to inspect their crops, a Purdue Extension entomologist says

One such insect is the Western bean cutworm, which typically feeds on Midwestern corn but also occasionally can be found in soybean fields. Western bean cutworm moths normally are not seen until late June and early July, but they have been showing up in pheromone traps throughout Indiana since the beginning of the month.

There is a correlation between the record-breaking temperatures and the early insect maturation, Christian Krupke said.

“Plant development was early, and insect development was also early. These things are both primarily temperature driven,” he said.

Farmers around the region need to set and keep an eye on pheromone traps to determine when they should start scouting their fields. When the number of trapped moths peaks (often double- and triple-digit numbers of moths per week), fields should be inspected for eggs, Krupke said.

He advised checking pre-tassel corn and inspecting the upper side of the newest upright leaf, where eggs typically are laid. At least 100 plants should be inspected, and if 5 percent or more of the inspected plants have eggs on them, farmers should treat their fields. Western bean cutworm eggs are creamy-white in color at first and darken to a purplish color before hatch. They are usually laid in groups of 20-50 eggs per cluster.

“If you don’t treat early, you won’t get them. Once they enter the whorl and later the developing ear, they cannot be contacted with insecticides,” Krupke said. Growers may be seeing eggs in spotty locations already, and they will peak at the end of June.

Researchers estimate that if there is one cutworm per ear of corn in a field, the farmer will lose four to six bushels per acre. But the insect is what Krupke referred to as a “minor pest” because, in Indiana, growers have never seen populations that high over an entire field.

There are many insecticides labeled for this pest, and they provide excellent control if applied on time, Krupke said. But if fields remain untreated, Western bean cutworms could begin feeding on the ear.

(continued on page 4)

Weather Information Table

Week Ending Sunday, June 24, 2012

Station	Past Week Weather Summary Data							Accumulation				
								April 1, 2012 through June 24, 2012				
	Air Temperature				Precip.		Avg 4 in Soil Temp	Precipitation			GDD Base 50°F	
	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days		Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN
Northwest (1)												
Chalmers_5W	91	54	76	+4	0.05	1		5.73	-4.83	21	1082	+68
Francesville	92	57	75	+5	0.00	0		6.39	-4.18	15	1066	+154
Valparaiso_AP_I	91	56	77	+7	0.17	1		6.51	-4.71	22	1070	+193
Wanatah	92	57	76	+6	0.28	1	81	7.09	-3.49	21	1017	+193
North Central (2)												
Plymouth	93	57	76	+5	0.12	1		4.26	-6.77	16	1033	+80
Rochester	93	55	76	+6	0.00	0		4.38	-6.44	16	1051	+204
South_Bend	93	59	78	+7	0.31	2		5.12	-5.21	24	1101	+245
Young_America	92	54	76	+6	0.18	1		5.25	-4.98	15	1072	+152
Northeast (3)												
Angola	92	54	74	+6	0.40	1		4.03	-5.93	18	923	+190
Fort_Wayne	95	56	78	+7	0.20	2		2.60	-7.10	20	1184	+281
West Central (4)												
Greencastle	90	50	75	+2	0.00	0		6.64	-4.77	18	1001	-83
Perrysville	95	53	78	+6	0.11	1	86	3.95	-7.34	18	1269	+272
Spencer_Ag	92	54	76	+4	0.00	0		7.25	-4.74	25	1154	+160
Terre_Haute_AFB	96	54	79	+6	0.00	0		5.77	-5.37	19	1437	+360
W_Lafayette_6NW	92	53	76	+6	0.06	1	81	6.17	-4.38	21	1197	+270
Central (5)												
Eagle_Creek_AP	92	63	78	+6	0.00	0		4.73	-5.69	18	1264	+198
Greenfield	93	58	78	+6	0.00	0		6.23	-4.80	17	1184	+184
Indianapolis_AP	93	61	80	+7	0.00	0		6.11	-4.31	20	1338	+272
Indianapolis_SE	93	54	78	+5	0.06	1		6.79	-3.89	21	1180	+140
Marion_Ag	92	55	77	+7	0.58	1		3.80	-6.54	17	1066	+190
Tipton_Ag	93	54	76	+6	0.23	1		4.38	-6.10	18	1112	+228
East Central (6)												
Farmland	92	57	77	+7	0.21	1	88	6.71	-4.00	19	1139	+287
New_Castle	94	53	77	+6	0.00	0		6.24	-5.40	20	1061	+187
Southwest (7)												
Evansville	94	62	80	+5	0.04	1		4.16	-7.36	15	1604	+305
Freelandville	92	60	78	+5	0.00	0		5.44	-6.42	18	1346	+222
Shoals_8S	94	53	76	+3	0.00	0		6.02	-6.55	19	1254	+178
Stendal	91	60	77	+3	0.14	1		4.08	-8.88	19	1392	+194
Vincennes_5NE	95	59	79	+5	0.00	0	85	5.13	-6.73	15	1446	+322
South Central (8)												
Leavenworth	93	60	78	+6	0.13	1		9.51	-3.19	24	1384	+306
Oolitic	92	56	76	+5	0.00	0	83	7.32	-4.66	22	1179	+167
Tell_City	93	65	80	+6	0.00	0		5.08	-7.75	16	1537	+323
Southeast (9)												
Brookville	93	58	78	+7	0.31	1		9.85	-1.47	20	1219	+291
Greensburg	94	59	79	+8	0.00	0		7.73	-3.97	20	1288	+293
Seymour	91	57	76	+5	0.04	2		8.81	-2.38	25	1189	+156

DFN = Departure From Normal.
GDD = Growing Degree Days.
Precipitation (Rainfall or melted snow/ice) in inches.
Precipitation Days = Days with precip of .01 inch or more.
Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.
For more weather information, visit www.awis.com or call 1-888-798-9955.

Ear feeding creates an “entry point” for the fungus Gibberella zeae, which causes Gibberella ear rot, explained Kiersten Wise, Purdue Extension plant pathologist.

This particular fungus can produce a byproduct that results in increased levels of mycotoxins in the grain, leading to livestock feed refusal and reproductive problems. She explained that the weather conditions when plants tassel will determine whether infection will occur by this fungus.

“It really depends on the environment,” Wise said, adding that cool, wet weather offers prime conditions for this disease to prosper.

More information about Western bean cutworm is available in the June 8 edition of Purdue Extension’s “Pest and Crop Newsletter” at: http://extension.entm.purdue.edu/pestcrop/2012/issue11/index.html#western

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WEEKLY NEWS REPORT

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